

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/07/2009 has been entered. In virtue of this submission, claims 2-4, 7-9, 22-23 and 25 are canceled; claims 15-16, 19 and 24 are withdrawn; claim 28 is newly added; thus, claims 1, 5-6, 10-21, 24 and 26-28 are currently in the instant application.

Interview Summary

2. Examiner contacted applicant's representative, Gary R. Edwards (Registration No. 31,824), on May 21, 2009 for discussing about a proposed amendment. Examiner suggested applicant's representative to cancel the withdrawn claim 24 in order to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant's representative agreed to authorize examiner cancel claim 24 in Examiner's amendment.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gary R. Edwards (Registration No. 31,824), on May 21, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

a) Specification:

Page 1, line 1, the phrase "This application is a 371 of PCT/GB05/50045 filed April 01, 2005" has been inserted.

b) Claim 24 has been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 5-6, 10-21 and 26-28 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose an articulated boom for space based antenna reflector system having an antenna reflector supported on said boom; wherein said boom comprises a support arm having at least three hinged joints; said support arm includes a dog-leg portion located between two of said hinged joints, that permits stowage of said antenna reflector in said stowed position; and said dog-leg portion is configured and positioned such that said dog leg portion extends at least partially along a circumference of the antenna reflector when said antenna reflector is in said stowed position, in combination with the remaining limitations as in claims, 1, 17 and 28 (claims 5-6, 10-16, 18-21 and 26-27 are allowed since they are dependent on claims 1 and 17).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIEU HIEN T. DUONG whose telephone number is (571)272-8980. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Owens can be reached on 571-272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Trinh Vo Dinh/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2821